

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 20, 2005. Claims 1, 3 to 22, and 24 to 45 have been cancelled herein, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 46 to 60 have been added, of which Claims 46 and 59 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicant's representative thanks Examiner Vo for the thoughtful courtesies and kind treatment extended during the telephonic interview held on July 11, 2005. Unfortunately, no agreement was reached as to the patentability of the now-cancelled claims during the interview.

In the Office Action, Claims 1 and 21 were rejected for alleged informalities. In particular, the Office Action alleged that the specification and drawings did not support the feature of light display power box which incorporates a transmitter. As indicated above, Claims 1 and 21 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding the correctness of this objection. Since the feature of a transmitter is described in new Claim 50, however, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to page 6 of the specification, as filed, in which it is described that "light display power box 100 includes a transmitter. . . ." Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3 to 19, 21, 22, and 24 to 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0075401 ("Segan") or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0046510 ("Allen"); and Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Segan in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0184354 ("McDonald"). As indicated above, Claims 1, 3 to 22, and 24 to 45 have been cancelled herein, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding the correctness of their rejections, and new Claims 46 to 60 have been added. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention generally concerns a light display power box. A first outlet, for receiving at least one of a first type of lights, and a second outlet, for receiving at least one of a

second type of lights, are coded corresponding to light type. A selected light display pattern for the first type of lights and the second type of lights is effectuated, either separately or together, based upon command signals. A sensor unit, further including an attachment apparatus, affixed to the light display power box via a length of wire is positioned to remotely receive wireless command signals.

Referring to particular claim language, new independent Claim 46 describes a light display power box, including first and second outlets. The first outlet receives at least one of a first type of lights, and the second outlet receives at least one of a second type of lights. The first and second outlets are coded corresponding to light type. The light display power box also includes a microprocessor, the microprocessor effectuating a selected light display pattern for the first type of lights and the second type of lights, either together or separately, based upon command signals. Additionally, the light display power box includes a sensor unit further including an attachment apparatus, the sensor unit affixed to the light display power box via a length of wire and positioned to remotely receive wireless command signals.

New independent Claim 59 describes a light display power box system, including a holiday decoration, and a light display power box, including first and second outlets. The first outlet receives at least one of a first type of lights, and the second outlet receives at least one of a second type of lights. The first and second outlets are coded corresponding to light type. The light display power box also includes a microprocessor, the microprocessor effectuating a selected light display pattern for the first type of lights and the second type of lights, either together or separately, based upon command signals. Additionally, the light display power box includes a sensor unit further including an attachment apparatus, the sensor unit affixed to the light display power box via a length of wire and positioned to remotely receive wireless command signals.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the foregoing features of the present invention. In particular, the applied art is not seen to teach at least the features of *i*) a light display power box, including first and second outlets, the first outlet receives at least one of a first type of lights, and the second outlet receives at least one of a second type of lights, where the first and second outlets are coded corresponding to light type, *ii*) a microprocessor, the

microprocessor effectuating a selected light display pattern for the first type of lights and the second type of lights, either together or separately, based upon command signals, or *iii*) a sensor unit further including an attachment apparatus, the sensor unit affixed to the light display power box via a length of wire and positioned to remotely receive wireless command signals.

Segan is seen to disclose a controller for controlling decorative light displays, including a plurality of outlet ports for providing power to a plurality of decorative light strings. *See* Segan, Abstract; ¶ [0006]; and Figure 1. In Figure 6, Segan illustrates six decorative light strings 61 to 66, which are connected to controller device 100. In paragraph [0045], light strings 61 to 66 are generally described as loose strings, such as the type of strings which are strung along window or door frames, or strings which are arranged on frames in the shape of a sleigh or a deer. *See* Segan, ¶ [0045], and Figure 6. However all of the loose light strings are seen to be the same, and nowhere is Segan seen to differentiate between the plurality of decorative light strings, such as to distinguish one light string from another on any basis. Accordingly, although it is true that Segan controls multiple decorative light strings, it is also true that the light strings controlled equally, without regard to light string type. Furthermore, since output ports 21 to 26 are seen to lack coding or distinguishing features over each other which would identify which type of light is associated with which output port, Applicant respectfully asserts that Segan is not seen to teach or suggest the feature of a light display power box, including first and second outlets, the first outlet receiving at least one of a first type of lights, and the second outlet receiving at least one of a second type of lights, where the first and second outlets are coded corresponding to light type.

In the interview, the Examiner indicated that paragraph [0032] of Segan described the feature of a microprocessor, the microprocessor effectuating a selected light display pattern for the first type of lights and the second type of lights, either together or separately, based upon command signals. Applicant respectfully disagrees. In particular, although paragraph [0032] describes a “chase” pattern where output ports are sequentially powered on and off one at a time, the “chase” sequence is again seen to be applied equally to all output ports and, correspondingly, all of the plurality of connected light strings. *See Segan*, ¶ [0032]. Again, microprocessor 10 is not differentiating between types of lights. Additionally, no provision is seen to be made for the “separate or together” control of output ports 21 to 26, based upon the type of light connected to

the individual port. Simply put, Segan is not seen to provide for the selective display of light patterns based upon the type of light connected, and is therefore not seen to be able to provide separate light display patterns for separate types of lights. Without a means for differentiating between one type of light over another, Segan cannot possibly be seen to include the substance of this feature.

Lastly, Segan is not seen to provide for a sensor unit further including an attachment apparatus, the sensor unit affixed to the light display power box via a length of wire and positioned to remotely receive wireless command signals. In paragraph [0042] Segan merely describes that a remote control device can be used to provide sophisticated user inputs to device 100. Nowhere is Segan seen, however, to describe a remotely positioned sensor, where the sensor includes an attachment apparatus. To its advantage, the present invention is able to remotely locate and attach a sensor in line of sight with a user, such as in a branch of a Christmas tree, while the unsightly light power box in Segan would need to be prominently displayed in order to receive remote control signals.

Allen is not seen to remedy the deficiencies of Segan. Although 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(c)(2), requires that an Office Action provide particularized findings, such as identification of particular parts of the applied reference relied on or the particular pages and sheets containing such parts, the outstanding Office Action makes no such particularized findings. Accordingly, Applicant can only address the rejection of the prior claims generally, without the benefit of detailed allegations.

Allen is seen to provide for an LED light string, employing a plurality of LEDs. *See* Allen, Abstract; and Fig. 2A. Although the LED lenses in Allen are seen to be of different shapes or colors, nowhere is the electrical interface seen to distinguish one light from another, based upon type of light. Accordingly, Allen is also not seen to teach or suggest the foregoing features of the present invention, particularly the features of *i*) a light display power box, including first and second outlets, the first outlet receives at least one of a first type of lights, and the second outlet receives at least one of a second type of lights, where the first and second outlets are coded corresponding to light type, *ii*) a microprocessor, the microprocessor effectuating a selected light display pattern for the first type of lights and the second type of

lights, either together or separately, based upon command signals, or *iii*) a sensor unit further including an attachment apparatus, the sensor unit affixed to the light display power box via a length of wire and positioned to remotely receive wireless command signals.

In this regard, neither Segan nor Allen are seen to teach, or to render obvious, the combination of features of new independent Claims 46 and 59, which are believed to be in condition for allowance.

The other claims currently under consideration in the application are dependent from the independent claim discussed above and therefore are believed to be allowable over the applied reference for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be contacted at the address and telephone number set forth below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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